

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 849

By Barnes

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Sergeant First Class Edward Tyree on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Army.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those military personnel who have served the United States of America with uncommon devotion and enthusiasm; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Edward Tyree is one such estimable citizen who has served with distinction as a soldier in the United States Army since 1992, having served in harm's way on multiple occasions as a member of the famed 101st Airborne Division; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Tyree will retire from active duty in May 2012, having compiled a distinguished military career that has spanned two decades and numerous challenging assignments; and

WHEREAS, dedicated to a life of purpose at a young age, SFC Tyree joined the U.S. Army after graduating from high school, attending Basic Combat Training and the U.S. Army Transportation School and gaining assignment soon thereafter to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, beginning his first of many tours as a 'Screaming Eagle' before being further assigned to the world-renowned 372nd Transportation Company; and

WHEREAS, while assigned to the 372nd Transportation Company "Deuce Train," SFC Tyree graduated from the U.S. Army Air Assault School, completing the course known as "The Ten Toughest Days in the Army" and being awarded the coveted Air Assault Badge; and

WHEREAS, due to his professional acumen and devotion to duty, SFC Tyree was selected to serve as a recruiter and was assigned to the Mid Atlantic Recruiting Battalion in New Jersey, where he gained the Gold Army Recruiting Badge; and

WHEREAS, following his recruiting assignment, SFC Tyree returned to serve in the 101st Airborne Division and was hand-selected to deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom to the Middle East following the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001; and

WHEREAS, SFC Tyree returned from this overseas tour to immediately prepare for another deployment to prepare for imminent hostilities in Iraq, arriving in Kuwait days before the invasion and leading a squad of Screaming Eagles to cross into Iraq in the early days of the war; and

WHEREAS, SFC Tyree so distinguished himself as a combat leader that he was awarded the nation's fourth highest wartime decoration, the Bronze Star Medal, for his actions while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Tyree would serve in Iraq during two additional tours, truly proving his dedication to the security of the United States and earning him the Iraq Campaign Medal with five service stars; and

WHEREAS, SFC Tyree established a sterling record of accomplishment that includes an array of awards and decorations, including the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Commendation Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters, the Army Achievement Medal with six Oak Leaf Clusters, and, perhaps most importantly, the honor of the 101st Airborne Division combat patch; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Tyree was supported in all of his endeavors by his devoted wife, Brenda, also a U.S. Army veteran, and his two beloved sons, Brandon and Andrew. He has made his home in Clarksville, Tennessee, and is a devoted Tennessee Volunteers sports fan and NASCAR enthusiast; and

WHEREAS, SFC Tyree exemplifies the values of courage, honor, and devotion to duty that are characteristic of a true Tennessean and diligent soldier; and

WHEREAS, Sergeant First Class Tyree has served with the utmost professionalism and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the soldiers under his charge, the public, and the members of the General Assembly alike; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and commend Sergeant First Class Edward Tyree for his meritorious service in the United States Army, offer our thanks for a difficult job well done, and extend to him our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.